THE AERONAUT.

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Sunt etiam musis ora ludicra, mista canenti
Otia sunt— —— AUSONIUS.

Even the stern muses have their sportive day
The nine severe enjoy their hour of play.
ANON.

To The Aeronauts.

Gentlemen.

I am a young woman turned of eighteen, and have been three two years in company. I remain yet under no immo-

diate apprehension of quitting the state of single blessedness, although I would have you to understand explicitly, that it is not for want of admirers. I will not as confidently tell you what is the nature of their admiration; nor can I determine without vanity, whether they are in love with my numerical or indescribable charms. Since however I am destined to see them daily and hear them talk on all subjects, it would be grateful to me to understand them. I have to complain of them in this manner that they may take a civil hint. You must know then gentlemen that my adorers are studying Conchology, and cannot open their lips, without some marine or subterranean allusion, all which are to me utterly incomprehensible. The comparisons of a lady's lips and cheeks & eyebrows to the natural substances of most beautiful

colours, is an old joke. But when they tell me such stuff at the best, in a learned parade of Latin, dug out of their vocabulary, I feel like a fool and often imagine they are making game of me under the cover of their conchological jargon. Indeed, Gentlemen, I am in continual apprehension of giving them unwarrantable hopes. When they are pouring forth their sonorous anglicised Greek, and I am assenting to every tirade, with as silly an air, as if I was answering the great question with "If mama pleases sir" — I say, in my ignorant confusion, I am in constant dread, lest one of my suitors should be offering his heart and hand, and misconceiving my incoherent responses and wandering blushes, as a compliance with his wishes.

Most of these young gentlemen,

which is the greenest part of the story, are engaged in legal or mercantile pursuits. I want to know Gentlemen, from you, as you have an extensive view of things in general, in the first place, whether I ought to study chronology? Do you think it would give a better idea of what is becoming in dressing myself? If you do, as I have but little time to spare, I will send my maid to the Alms house every day to hear a lecture. In the second place, don't you think, that if young men study this science in order to make themselves agreeable to ourselves they might as well let it alone? Or, if they will make researches into nature, might they not as well study what, from my ignorance of Greek, I am forced to call Stone-ology. If they would tell us of diamonds and

mbrils, and occationally favor us with a few specimens, I have no doubt we could all set to, and rival them in knowledge before long.

As it is, I acknowledge the defects of my education and that I am pretty ignorant, but I must say, I think there are other amusements more calculated to make the imagination live-ly and promote improvement in the scienc of complimenting. and I would recommend conchology to some old bachelor, as a way of killing time, when his cigar is smoaked out and his cat has fallen asleep. I beg you answer to my epistle. Tell me how I shall conduct myself, and answer my queries, and you will confer an ever-lasting kindness on

Yours

BRIDGET SIMPLE.

we must decline giving any reply to Miss Simple's enquiries; we are not ambitious of bringing a host of enemies about our ears with whom we could not cope with their own weapons. We can only advise her to read Milton or some such ant-iquated book and reply to the conchologists with quotations, which will pass very well for answers. We are much mistaken if she does not soon stump her admirers.

To the Aeronaut.

Gentlemen.

I am pleased to find that you are disposed to stand up in favour of neglected merit. This country is in my opinion, but half civilized, and holds forth no advantages to the aspirer after fame. I have myself felt the truth of this in my own proper person, and am driven to an appeal to public

sympathy, through the medium of your flying press. Know then, gentlemen that I have made it my business from my youth upwards, to cultivate the elevated science of statuary. You have probably heard of Greece and Rome- and of their improvements in the imitative art: But- Gentlemen, Phidias and Praxiteles were only stonecutters and that is the most that can be said for them. I am disposed to allow, that, considering their clumsy materials, they made out pretty tolerably well- but mine is a nobler task. I do not make the marble speak, because that is all galimatias; but, I represent to the life the human form divine, in all the glory of dress, in all the beauty of coloring: yes, gentlemen, I make Wax work.

I now offer to public inspection, as neat a collection of ladies and gentlemen, as, I will be bound to say, were ever stuffed out and put together on this side of the Atlantic or the other. Gentlemen, I feel conscious of their excellence and inadequacy of the little attention that has been paid to them.

I have been at considerable expence in buying a gilt eagle, for the Goddess of Liberty to feed, and broke her arm nine times before I could get her fingers down his throat. Not to mention the expence I have been at, in keeping her up, and two females to weep at the tomb of Washington, I must mention my two chef d'oeuvres. The prodigal son, I will undertake to state, is as neatly drest in a sawyer's establishment, as you can well imagine.

The two spies are handsomely clad in black small clothes and coats, with chapeaux neatly cocked. I have shaved them both smooth, and they are as pretty a pair of spies, with a bean pole across their shoulders and a bunch of grapes, as ever were strung up on a gallows.

It cost me a great sum to buy a silk petticoat and a fashionable bonnet for Hagar in the wilderness. The Jews ought to be much obliged to me, for the compliment I have paid their patriarch. Instead of letting him turn the lady with great sang froid into the desart, I made him take her to a milliner's and rig her out completely, saving shoes and stockings, which it is presumable she wore out in the journey.

Then, I have spared no expense in planting golden trees and flowering shrubs in the wilderness. It is one of the greatest

prettiest deserts that one would wish to see in a summers day.

Gentlemen, I trust this statement of my anxiety to promote the fine arts and improve public taste, will not pass unregarded and neglected. And so, gentlemen I subscribe myself,

your humble servant

LEMUEL CATCHPENNY.

P.S. If this takes, I will do you all into wax work. Let me know how you would like to be dressed, as I have some thoughts of getting a new suit for the Prodigal Son, and will have your measures taken at the same time.

L. C.

To the Aeronauts

Gentlemen.

I am a young man, four feet, nine inches high; and in a cocked hat and high heeled boots, should be at

least five feet, sir. I am anxious to serve my country, and my ambition being to rise in the military line, I applied to the Governor for a Commission in the state militia. I bought a superb suit of regimentals and a sword of elegant workmanship and great size. In walking before the glass to practice postures, it got between my feet and upset me, by which I had nearly broken the bridge of my nose. Well, gentlemen, what do you think happened after all this? I modestly applied for a lieutenancy - and was refused! Heavens! Do we live in a land of liberty? My indignation chokes my utterance. Which do you think is the greatest fool - myself, for dreaming of distinction in an ungrateful land, or the governor for his pitiful conduct?

JOHN SNUB.

We assure Mr Snub, that we think

one of the parties is a most magnanimous blockhead. We know of none greater - unless it be the child who lately ran roaring about the streets on perusing a certain article in the newspaper. He naturally enough mistook for censure the only compliment he ever received; he also criticised an expression of Shakspeare's, and prophecied that the Forum would become the school of American elocution; because it was for the good of the poor and he belonged to it. We certainly allow, that he is the most lamentable sansculotte we have ever contemplated; - but, if he has been so much improved, he must have entered Mechanic Hall, in all his mother's nakedness.

S.